

Exhibit 12

***Courier-Tribune* Article on the Liberty Heritage Wall**

Historic mural unveiled in Liberty

By Kerry Kesler
Staff Writer, The Courier-Tribune

LIBERTY - Memories of the town's past were unveiled Sunday afternoon as townspeople and dignitaries gathered at Town Hall to catch the first glimpse of the Liberty Heritage Wall.



Paul Church / The Courier-Tribune

The wall, actually a mural seven feet tall and 20 feet wide, was officially dedicated in its permanent home in the hallway which connects the town hall to the town library.

People file by to view the Liberty Heritage Wall unveiled Sunday at the town hall on South Fayetteville Street. The wall, two years in the making, required more than 700 hours of volunteer work by local residents. Scenes from Liberty's past decorate the 140 clay tiles that make up the work of art presented to townspeople by members of the Patterson Cottage Museum committee.

Guy Troy, chairman of the Patterson Cottage Museum committee, the group responsible for making the wall, acted as host for the dedication.

Liberty Mayor John K. Stanley welcomed everyone to the unveiling and recognized U.S. Rep. Howard Coble (R-NC) and state Rep. Arlie Culp (R-30) as honored guests.

"Two years ago, the Patterson Cottage committee had a vision. Today, you will see this vision," Stanley said. "This is a gift to Liberty and for future generations. I can't say enough thank yous for the work they are giving you."

Troy told a little about the creation of the wall and the purpose of the Patterson Cottage Museum. He also recognized the town's oldest resident, 101-year-old Cora Vernon, who was present.

Coble spoke of memories from his days as a young baseball player in 1948 - when he played legion ball for the Liberty team.

"This wall is a labor of love," Coble said. "Today, many of you have thanked me for being here. I thank you for letting me be a part of your special day."

Inside the building, Stanley and Coble, along with Corbin and Carmen Dodson, grandchildren of Wade and Brenda Shelton, pulled the cords to unveil the wall to an expectant audience.

The mural was the idea of former town resident Beverly Wilson. In 1999, Wilson and Liberty artist Brenda Shelton designed the montage of historic places and things represented on the wall. Several dozen volunteers used that design to carve and paint the 140 clay tiles which make up the wall. Seagrove artisan Ad Vanderstaak fired the tiles and mounted them to the wall.

The wall incorporates images of such places as the train depot, the old firehouse and the Curtis Theatre. An oak tree with the date 1809, recognized as the founding date, occupies the central portion of the wall. Troy said that more than 700 hours of volunteer work went into the making of the glazed mural.

The creation of the Liberty Heritage Wall was used as a fund-raising effort by members of the Patterson Cottage Museum committee to raise money for the museum and to restore the town's 1949 fire truck. Tiles were sold for \$100 each and a list of contributors is displayed next to the wall.

There was also a second historic "unveiling" during the Liberty Heritage Wall ceremony.

Tom Robins, chairman of the Liberty Preservation committee, with the help of town historian Francine Swaim, unveiled one of the signs which will designate a portion of Liberty as a National Historic District. The district runs along South Fayetteville Street, north to take in the old Curtis Theatre (now the Rand Ole Opry) and the businesses along downtown Swannanoa Street to Depot Street. It also encompasses a portion of Greensboro Street.

"This is a recognition by the Historic Register that the properties have a historical significance," Robins said. "We now join Coleridge and Franklinville (in Randolph County) as having an officially recognized historic district."

After the mural unveiling, town commissioner Pike Johnson said the wall was in a beautiful place - a place where anyone coming to town hall or the library can see it.

Town Manager Chad Howell said that three spotlights will eventually be installed on the ceiling to accent the wall.

Artist Shelton seemed pleased with the unveiling and the praise the finished product received Sunday afternoon.

"We worked hard, but we had a great time doing it," she said. "It was a great community effort."

Wade Shelton, who designed and built the wooden frame around the mural, agreed.

"It was a long two-year project and I'm glad it ended on such a good note."

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Exhibit 13

**“Liberty Township” section of the
Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection**

Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Liberty Township

Automobiles

Smith Garage in Liberty, ca. 1920. [2746](#)

Cemeteries

Gilmore Memorial Park [615](#)

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First United Church of Christ [1714](#)

Churches, A.M.E.

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Oliver's Chapel, A.M.E. Zion in Liberty [1967](#)

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Known as Kivett's Church. Organized in 1872. [1968](#)

Macedonia Baptist Church [614](#)

Missionary Baptist church [1969](#)

Sandy Creek Baptist Church [1971](#), [6019](#), [6020](#), [3313](#), [3431](#)

Second Building; Sandy Creek Baptist Church [6018](#)

Shady Grove Baptist Church [1964](#)

Churches, Friends, Society

Liberty Friends Meeting [1717](#)

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Cemetery Tombstone of Leonard Fox, Sr. [1898](#)

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Liberty First United Methodist Church [1716](#)

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Shiloh Methodist Church sign. [3992](#)

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Presbyterian Meeting House [6046](#)

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Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church [1972](#)

Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church road sign [6023](#)

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Julian Voluntary Fire Station [608](#)

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Loflin Funeral Home in Liberty [1776](#)

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Stout Chair Company building. [1922](#)

Hosiery Industry

Dependable Hosiery Mill [1779](#)

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Charles H. Hardin home built in 1889. [609](#)

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Robert English Patterson home on Fayetteville St. [2744](#)

William J. Long home. [408](#)

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Liberty Town Hall - Library Complex. [1722](#)

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Patterson House Museum [2996](#)

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Singing school at Melancthon Lutheran Church [2661](#)

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Gilmore Plant & Bulb Company [612](#)

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Congressman Bill Cobey in Liberty, NC. [CT55](#)

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Randolph High School [1923](#)

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Liberty Machine Company, ca. 1915 [2745](#)

Unknown

Hillside at Highway 49 near Liberty. [1713](#)

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Randolph Telephone Company [1777](#)

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Artesian well and water tower. Town of Liberty [400](#)

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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Railroad Stations



Liberty Railroad Station

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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Patterson House Museum



A Museum located in the oldest known home in Liberty. The woman on the front porch is Francine Swaim.

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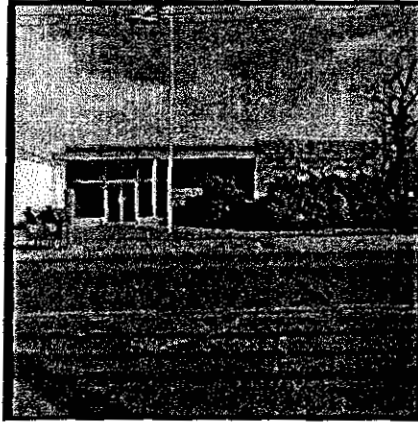
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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Post Offices



Liberty Post Office, South Fayetteville Street, Liberty.

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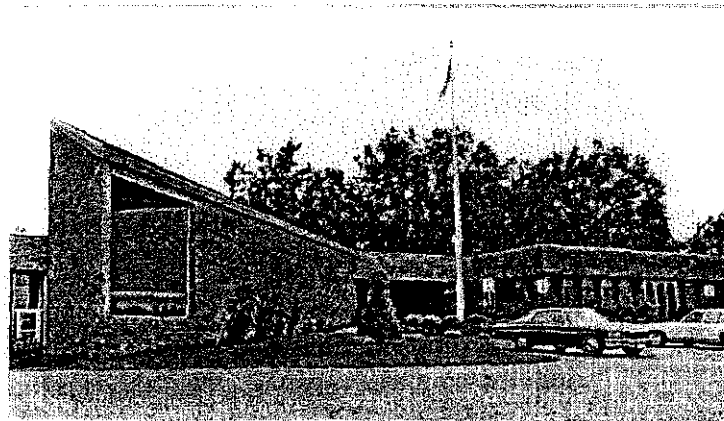
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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Municipal buildings



Liberty Town Hall - Library Complex. Fayetteville Street, Liberty. Built in 1975.

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Houses, Liberty



Robert English Patterson home on Fayetteville Street in Liberty.

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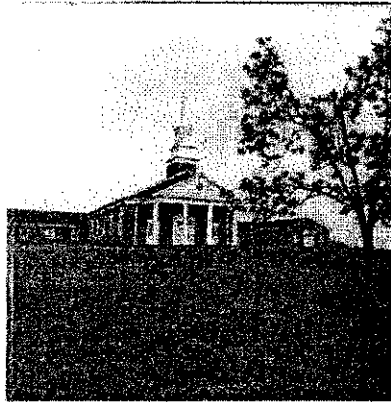
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First Baptist Church



Located in Liberty on South Fayetteville Street

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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Stores, Liberty



Liberty Machine Company, ca 1915.

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Fire Station



Liberty Fire Station on Swannanoa Street with Police Department

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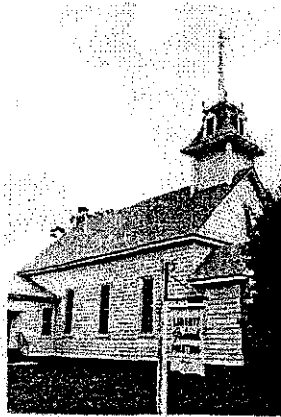
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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Liberty Friends Meeting



Liberty Friends Meeting was built in 1890 as the home of Liberty Methodist Episcopal congregation. It was later acquired by the Quakers in 1943 after the merger of the Methodist Episcopal & Protestant churches.

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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Oliver's Chapel, A.M.E. Zion



Organized in 1850. Located in Liberty township.

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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

St. Stephen A.M.E. Church



Church organized in 1881. Located in West Liberty.

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First United Church of Christ



Liberty Congregational Christian Church was organized in 1884. It was the first church organized in the Town of Liberty. Later it became the First United Church of Christ in Liberty. The church is located on West Swannanoa Street.

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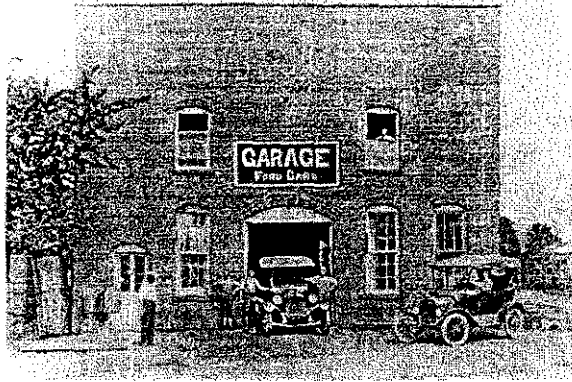
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Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection

Smith Garage



Smith Garage in Liberty. Photographed ca. 1920. Brick building with older automobiles parked in front of the building.

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Funeral Homes



Loflin Funeral Home on Swannanoa Street in Liberty

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Exhibit 14

Patterson Cottage Museum

Randolph County

The Patterson Cottage Museum

The little house that is now known as the Patterson Cottage Museum first stood in the business district of Liberty, two blocks north of its present location. It was built in 1885 by Dr. Armstead Jackson Patterson as a home for his aging parents. In 1895 the house survived a fire that destroyed most of the business district. In 1974 the house was moved to its present location, and in 1976 the museum restoration and furnishing was largely completed. Many of the items in the museum have interesting local stories behind them. The Liberty Garden Club has assumed the responsibility of hostesses and tour guides.



Click on either picture to return to the Historical Sites page.